

We claim:

1. A plant nutrient reduction system comprising the application to a plant of a microbially enhanced inorganic fertilizer composition wherein said application results in plant growth or yield comparable to the application of substantially greater amounts of a non-microbially enhanced fertilizer composition.
2. The system of claim 1, wherein said microbially enhanced inorganic fertilizer composition comprises at least about  $1 \times 10^5$  microorganisms per gram of fertilizer.
3. The system of claim 1, wherein said comparable plant growth or yield results from the application to plants of a microbially enhanced inorganic fertilizer composition in an amount at least 25% less by weight than that which results from the application to a plant of a non-microbially enhanced inorganic fertilizer composition.
4. The system of claim 1, wherein said comparable plant growth or yield results from the application to plants of a microbially enhanced inorganic fertilizer composition in an amount at least 25% less by weight than that which results from the application to a plant of a non-microbially enhanced inorganic fertilizer composition in an equivalent time period.
5. A plant nutrient reduction system comprising the application to plants of a microbially enhanced inorganic fertilizer composition wherein said application results in levels of nitrogen, phosphorus, or potassium levels in the plants comparable to the application of substantially greater amounts of a non-microbially enhanced fertilizer composition.
6. The system of claim 5, wherein said microbially enhanced inorganic fertilizer composition comprises at least about  $1 \times 10^5$  microorganisms per gram of fertilizer.
7. The system of claim 5, wherein said comparable plant growth or yield results from the application to plants of a microbially enhanced inorganic fertilizer composition in an amount at least 25% less by weight than that which results from the application to a plant of a non-microbially enhanced inorganic fertilizer composition.
8. The system of claim 5, wherein said comparable plant growth or yield results from the application to plants of a microbially enhanced inorganic fertilizer composition in an amount at least 25% less by weight than that which results from the application to a plant of a non-microbially enhanced inorganic fertilizer composition in an equivalent time period.
9. A plant nutrient reduction system comprising the application to plants of a microbially enhanced inorganic fertilizer composition wherein said application results in residual levels

of nitrogen, phosphorus, or potassium in the soil substantially less than that which results from the application to a plant of a non-microbially enhanced fertilizer composition.

10. The system of claim 9, wherein said microbially enhanced inorganic fertilizer composition comprises at least about  $1 \times 10^5$  microorganisms per gram of fertilizer.